



Letters

Vote Wednesday

Dear Editor:

Throughout the next ten days, we Dal students, grads and undergrads, part-time and full-time, from the upper campus and lower campus, will be hearing a lot about the fee referendum to be held on 30 October. If this comes as a surprise to anyone, please do not react, (initially anyway), with something to the effect of, "What, more money? I already gave to United Appeal."

This issue certainly does deserve our consideration. Its outcome will determine Student Union direction and effectiveness for probably the next half decade at least. It will decide whether the Student Union can continue striving to realize its role as an extension and expression of we students. Please vote and vote responsibly on 30 October.

Bruce Russell
3rd year Economics
Member
Council Executive

TV Guide Blues

To the GAZETTE:

As a member and contributor to the GAZETTE, I wish to bring forward a matter of grave concern regarding the copy of the paper, that being our great (the best in Metro) TV Guide. Now, I am a student of the Arts, prone to slothful ways and given to cynical amusements on many a day when I am not furiously involved in my 12-hours-per-week class schedule. To wit, I have a compulsion to watch absurd TV shows whenever the rigours of Canadian Literature or Existentialism send me clamouring up the walls. Now, I have no classes on Thursday, and so am most driven to the boob tube on this day. So, I reach for the GAZETTE, turn to the centrefold of the Entertainment Section, and -

Radio Feedback

To the Editor:

First let us give a tip of the fedora to the "brave" and (obviously) observant individual who subtitled the "pearls of wisdom" from one Tom Clahane (SIC) in the Gazette "Voices from the Living Dead".

One is to be reminded, having read the trivia, (temper tantrum, tears to be added if effective) which spans seven columns that there never was a baby who wouldn't wet his pants to annoy its mother.

One might question comments such as "they have the gall to tell me" (who the hell are you anyway); "rape of radio" (righteous indignation perhaps on the part of those hardly righteous); lack of conscience (strange words considering the source). The expression "from the mouths of babes" seems appropriate. If council wanted him to silence (a rare treat) perhaps they took into account that not only should one keep quiet if they have nothing nice to say but also they should remain silent if they have nothing intelligent to add.

Seven columns bewailing a child's loss of a "toy". Please spare us this adolescent and self-indulgent meandering in future issues. Council was right in closing Dal Radio. May I wish them success in the future re-making Dal Radio an effective voice. May I wish Dal Radio success in any venture which will eliminate the "hard-rock MUZACK" system which has bombarded the S.U.B. occupants these past two years.

Sincerely,
An Old Ex-Radio Member,
Bob Switzer

FIND ONLY LAST WEEK'S SCHEDULING FOR THURSDAY LISTED!

Now, I will not buy another TV Guide, as: a) I'm cheap, and b) I feel it is my duty to support the student paper of my beloved alma mater. Therefore, I must trudge down to the Student Union Building and wait patiently for The 4th Estate truck to deliver this Thursday's issue. This usually occurs at about 3:00 P.M., so much TV viewing time is wasted. I'm certain that I am not the only one to be upset by this inconvenience, so I would suggest that the TV Guide either be carried over from Friday to Friday, or start your listings at 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays. Is this not a simple thing to ask?

While I'm on the subject, could you please also list the Midday Matinee?

Sincerely,
Roger P. Metcalf,
B.A. II

More Free Beer??

Editor,
The Dalhousie Gazette

Let us humbly be the first respectfully to congratulate Council on its recent intelligent and unexpected action.

Let us also humbly bring to your attention, since you unfortunately overlooked the fact, that as early as 1973, we, in what was then the Peoples' Alliance (although we may change the name back in response the more conservative elements in this group), were advocating in our campaigns that Dal Radio be turned politely but firmly OFF.

We suggest to Council, now that the reasonableness of our ideas has been firmly established, that they seriously consider the other suggestions we made. How about unplugging Major Vending or disbanding the Kretinous Kampus Kops, or free beer, or...

Yours very truly,
M.J.Hertwig
P.W. Reynard

Dear Switz,

Before I get to deeply into my reply to your obviously concerned letter regarding the reporting of the radio incident allow me to thank you for your tip of the fedora, as I thought it was very representative of the position of ex-radio when I subtitled the article "Voices From The Living Dead". Unfortunately, as to the remainder of your letter, I can find very little to reply to. Apart from the last paragraph the letter seems to be nothing but a personal attack, unwarranted and unverified in content, ignorant and childish in approach. Perhaps it would be beneficial for you to reread the last half of your own third paragraph.

As for the last section, in which you back council's action, I would point out that I also backed the purpose of the action, just not the way in which it was done. There are those of us who prefer expediency to democracy, and results to personal rights. As you appear to be of this inclination, I see no point in wasting newsprint to attempt to illuminate your mind.

As always,
Tom Clahane

Dialogue

by Ken MacDougall

Dal students can take consolation from two occurrences in last week's civic elections; first, that Dalhousie student Brenda Shannon was elected in Ward II, and that Terry Donahoe didn't get elected to the mayoralty chair. Beyond either of these points, there is little to cheer about.

Shannon's election should have been a foregone conclusion. By far the best candidate offering anywhere in the city, Shannon's political activism should go a long way towards replacing Dave MacKeen in the eyes and hearts of activists in the city, if she is able to live up to the press billings that The 4th Estate's Mary McGeer has been giving her. It was interesting to note the order of candidates' finishing in the ward, as well. Merv Sieber, who managed Liberal MLA Ron Wallace's campaign, finished dead last. He should have saved his bright red posters, which he plastered on every post in the ward, for blackouts for his and Wallace's home windows. Wallace, as people will recall, offered to resign if the Quinpool Road project went ahead as developer Ralph Medjuck planned it. As yet, Wallace has not resigned, even though City Council has given the go-ahead on Quinpool Road. If Wallace and Sieber cannot see the light dawning on them that Sieber's rejection by area residents was a storm barometer of the ill feelings harboured against Wallace's performance, these gentlemen don't need blackout curtains - they're already blind.

As for Donahoe, he has to be the leading candidate for my new award, Rip van Winkle-of-the-Year. Any man who can call the view planes' legislation "restrictive", while claiming to represent the "middle ground" of the electorate, has to be asleep. If Donahoe really, seriously believed that the common mass of the electorate couldn't interpret this line any other way than pro-development and developer, he is asleep - forever. The frightening part about his candidacy is that, if the Mail-Star's columnist Ian Thompson is correct in his poll-by-poll analysis, Donahoe would be mayor now, if Edmund Morris hadn't run. I shudder to think what would happen to Halifax's historical properties if this had happened. I can see that revolving restaurant on Citadel Hill already. However, I don't totally agree with Thompson, although I certainly can't argue with his statistics. I believe that Donahoe did so well (he finished second behind Morris) because of exposure - poster exposure, that is. He was another one, like Sieber, who staked territorial claim to every post and pillar in the city. His Conservative organizers did a fine job of giving his face its proper due, while keeping him suspiciously quiet on issues. I believe either Moir or McGrath would have won without Morris's candidacy, with odds on McGrath because of his ability to come on stronger on the only issue to emerge in the campaign - leadership. Unfortunately, McGrath probably didn't even dream that issue up. His literature sounded suspiciously like '74 federal Liberal recyclings.

Other Election Revelations...

Actually, Dal students have more to cheer about this election than I have already mentioned. Edmund Morris, newly elected mayor, has promised to mediate a compromise between Dalhousie University and the south end residents (who call themselves the "Concerned Dalhousie Area Residents") over the site of the sports complex. I suspect that City Council's move last week to authorize City Solicitor Murphy to proceed with the appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada will be over-ruled by the new Council. The motion to proceed, introduced by Ward I alderman Dennis Connolly, was probably a last-ditch gasp by the CDAR to have things their own way. Connolly has consistently been their puppet, and has ignored the wishes of a majority of the ward residents, many of whom are Dal students. If, however, the new Council starts to eat Dal President Henry Hicks' pie, they should beware of slitting their own throats, particularly when it comes to controlling developers. The City was right when it said that it needed the weapon of lot consolidation to control developers, even though Councillors never have exercised any control on these gentlemen. Regardless of what Dal students may think of this reasoning, I hope that Henry and the boys lose in the Supreme Court.

Morris should be very careful of eating from the Dal apple of compromise, at any rate. Apparently there is a firming up of the resistance in the Dal Phys Ed Department towards the Stairs property site, with the opposition becoming increasingly difficult to subdue. The reason for the apparent resistance is the feeling that the site is too far from the main body of the campus. Some faculty members are favouring a site behind the Student Union Building, which is just about the location originally planned for the complex. Dal has been furiously buying land behind the SUB, probably in case they lose the appeal in the Supreme Court. The best course of action that Morris could bargain would be to convince the residents to accept recreational facilities on the Stairs site (tennis courts, playing field and field house), expropriate the property Dal still needs to develop the building on the LeMarchant Street site, (while ensuring that Mr. Matheson, the recluse who lives in the old, run-down house on South Street, west of LeMarchant, gets a favourable price for his home), and get Dal to throw the appeal in the Supreme Court. Dr. Hicks could do more towards winning back public respect for Dalhousie with this move, than any of his temperamental public statements ever could do.